

# **State of Alaska FY2022 Governor's Operating Budget**

**Department of Fish and Game**

## Department of Fish and Game

### Mission

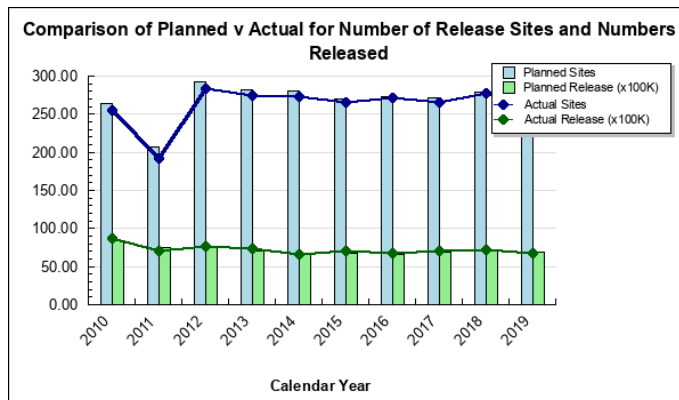
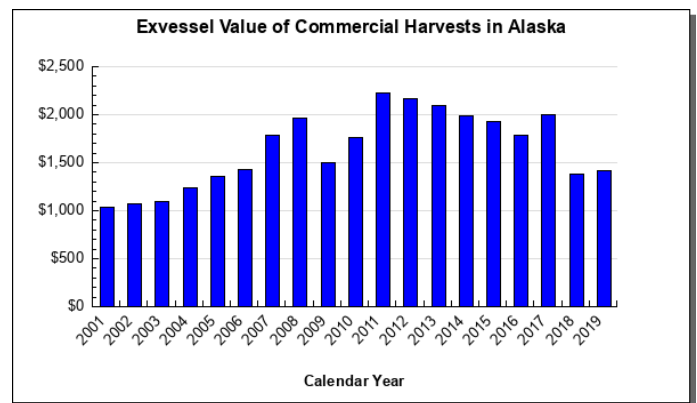
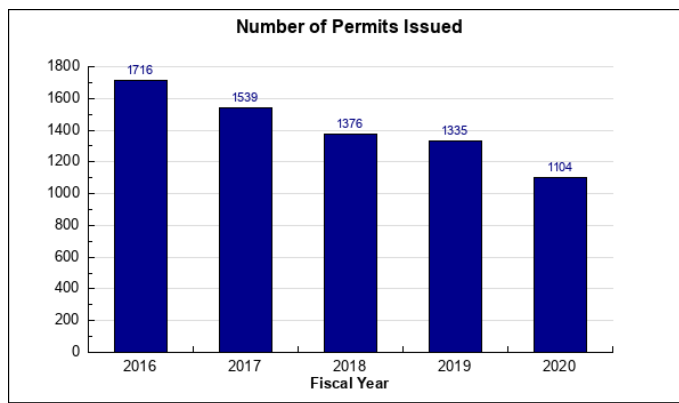
To protect, maintain, and improve the fish, game, and aquatic plant resources of the state, and manage their use and development in the best interest of the economy and the well-being of the people of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle. Alaska Constitution Article 8, Sec. 4; AS 16.05.020(2)

	<b>Core Services (in priority order)</b>	<b>UGF</b>	<b>DGF</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Fed</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>PFT</b>	<b>PPT</b>	<b>NP</b>	<b>% GF</b>
1	Management	22,820.0	4,609.5	34,209.8	38,651.5	100,290.8	425.5	279.3	2.5	42.2%
2	Stock Assessment and Research	20,537.3	9,170.1	17,677.9	16,251.5	63,636.7	242.3	231.5	2.6	45.7%
3	Customer Service and Public Involvement	7,423.2	477.7	15,718.7	15,233.5	38,853.2	158.2	87.2	0.9	12.1%
	<b>FY2021 Management Plan</b>	<b>50,780.5</b>	<b>14,257.3</b>	<b>67,606.4</b>	<b>70,136.5</b>	<b>202,780.7</b>	<b>826.0</b>	<b>598.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	

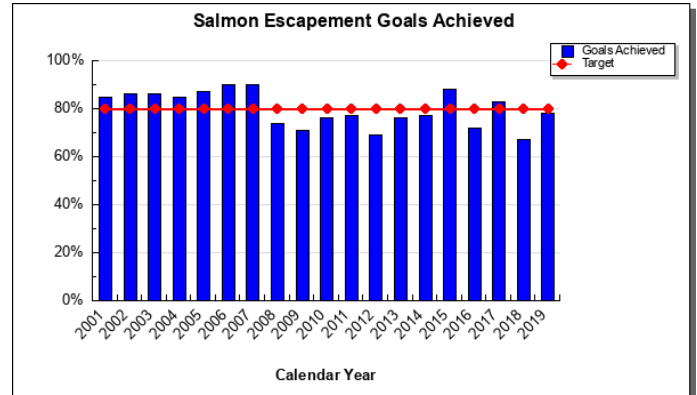
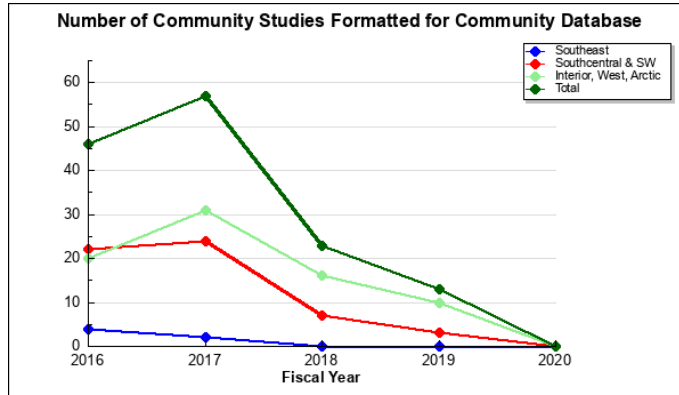
### Measures by Core Service

(Additional performance information is available on the web at <https://omb.alaska.gov/results>.)

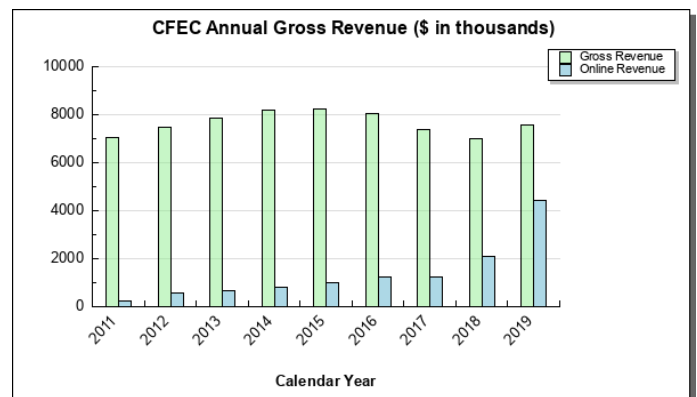
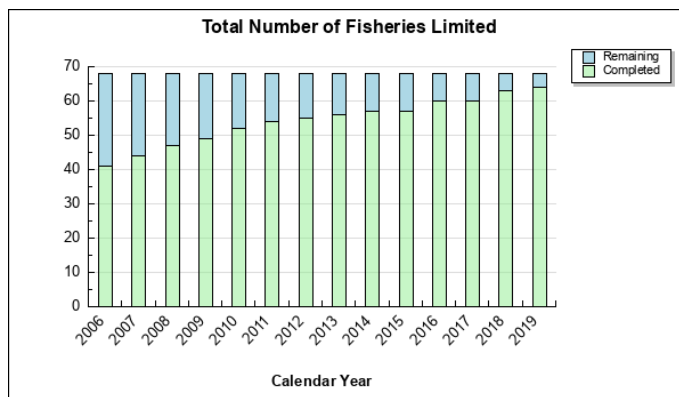
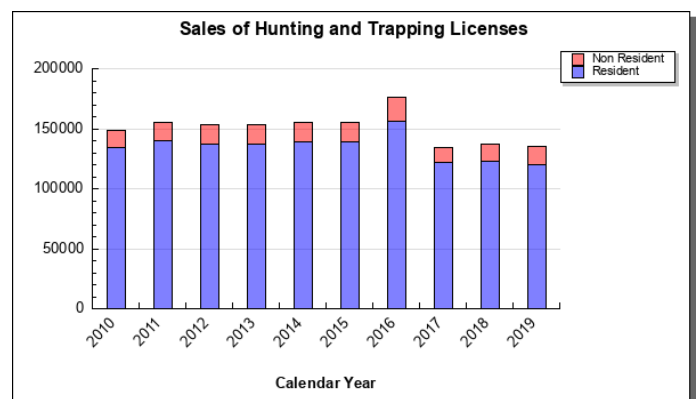
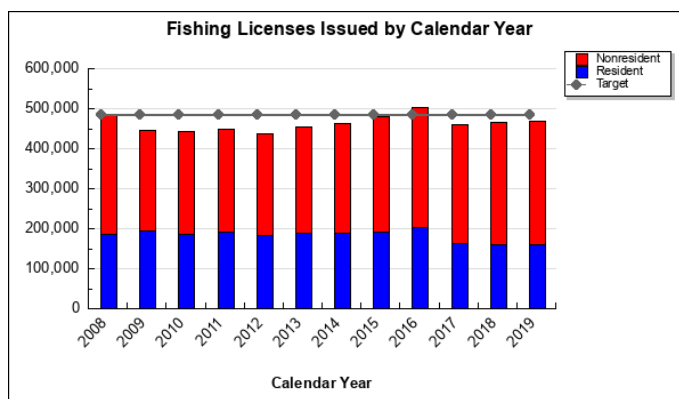
#### 1. Management



## 2. Stock Assessment and Research



## 3. Customer Service and Public Involvement



## Major Department Accomplishments in 2020

2020 will be defined as the Year of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic. This pandemic significantly impacted Alaskans and the Alaskans economy. To minimize economic impacts to Alaskans, the department early in this pandemic decided that the state would have fisheries and hunts this year. The department worked to ensure the necessary research and management infrastructure was in place to safely conduct fisheries and hunts across Alaska. This allowed commercial fisheries to operate, allowing commercial fishermen to fish their permits and thereby make a living, and contribute to the state and local economies through collected fish taxes. Sport and personal use fisheries also operated, allowing anglers an opportunity to fill their freezers, feed their families, and get outside. Subsistence fisheries and hunts also occurred, allowing subsistence harvesters opportunities to feed their communities and pass on traditions. Hunts occurred throughout Alaska allowing Alaskans opportunities to hunt, fill their freezers, and pass on traditions. Finally, charter fishing and guided hunting operated, providing needed recreational opportunities and

economic boosts to the state and local economies.

This allowed our state fish and wildlife resources to continue to provide a return on investment to our state and local economies. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) turns \$198 million dollar investment (the department's budget of which \$63 million is GF), into a return of over \$11 billion dollars annually. The department managed fish and wildlife resources in a way that produce more jobs and economic value than any other sector of the economy. Tens of thousands of jobs and hundreds of small businesses rely on activities and opportunities associated with Alaska's fish and wildlife resources. Alaska has the most valuable commercial fishing industry in the nation; is the foundation of Alaska's booming tourism industry; provides world class hunting, sport fishing, and wildlife viewing opportunities; and supports an unequaled subsistence culture and economy. Harvest opportunities are also provided for Alaskans, which is critical to feeding families and to passing on important traditions.

#### Economic Value of Commercially Harvested Alaska Seafood:

- Directly employs 60,000 workers annually, more than any other industry in Alaska – Largest private sector employer in Alaska
- Contributes \$146 million in taxes, fees, and self-assessments which help fund state, local and federal government
- Alaska seafood contributes an annual average of \$5 billion in economic output to the Alaska economy
- Alaska exports over 1 million metric tons of seafood each year, returning over \$3 billion of new money into the U.S. economy

#### Economic Value of Sport Fisheries

- 15,879 Jobs supported
- \$246 million in taxes contributed (adjusted for inflation, \$298.64 million in 2019 dollars)
- \$545 million in income provided (adjusted for inflation, \$661.63 million in 2019 dollars)
- \$1.6 billion industry output. (adjusted for inflation, \$1.950 billion in 2019 dollars)

#### Economic Value of Wildlife

- More than 27,000 Jobs supported
- 1.4 billion in labor income (adjusted for inflation, 1.566 billion in 2019 dollars)
- 3.4 billion spent by hunters and wildlife viewers (adjusted for inflation, 3.87 billion in 2019 dollars)
- \$4.1 billion economic activity statewide. (adjusted for inflation, 4.59 billion in 2019 dollars)

#### Economic Value of Subsistence

- 2014 Nutritional replacement value schedules show that subsistence provides Alaskans with between \$183,878,022- \$367,756,045 (\$200,826,510- \$391,020,417 adjusted for inflation to 2019 dollars) worth of wild food per year.

#### **COVID-19 Response**

Every state agency was challenged by COVID-19 and ADF&G was no exception. The challenges included transitioning staff to telework situations while simultaneously developing action plans to operate assessment projects required to open fisheries and hunts around the state. The department's staff worked with the seafood industry and communities to establish ways to safely open fisheries. The department constructed a situational telework agreement for staff members that could transition to telework and developed staggered schedules and other solutions for staff members who had jobs that did not fit a telework situation. Staff members worked with rural communities to develop ways to conduct necessary field work while protecting the community. Additional planning was required to ensure safety of staff in remote field camps including securing hard to find protective equipment and sanitation supplies, quarantining protocols, contingency plans if a staff member became symptomatic, and adjustment of field camp operations. The department was able to successfully open nearly every fishery and hunt which is a testament to the hard-working, dedicated staff.

The department quickly adapted to be able to continue to provide a high level of public service as well as to conduct research and management activities despite pandemic challenges. Adaptations included shifting many educational events to online only, offering some registration hunt permits online that were previously available only in-person, and allowing bear baiters to register bait stations online instead of in person. Since many rural communities adopted COVID-19 travel restrictions that prohibited visitors from entering their town without permission; the division advised hunters to take a picture of themselves at the airport, send it in, and staff would issue permits to the hunters. Staff

even hand delivered certain registration permits to hunters traveling through several rural airports so they could get their permits without leaving airport property. In addition, at the direction of the Board of Game, hunters with spring 2020 bear permits were allowed to transfer those permits to future hunting seasons if they desired. Managers and researchers adopted COVID-19 protocols to enable field activities to continue including being particularly sensitive to heightened concern about virus spread into rural Alaska communities.

### **Statewide Salmon Harvest, Fishery Value, and Stock Status Improvements**

The 2020 commercial salmon fishery all species harvest was valued at approximately \$295.2 million (nominal). A total of 116.8 million fish were harvested. Of this total, sockeye salmon accounted for approximately 59 percent of the total nominal value at \$174.9 million and 40 percent of the harvest at 46.1 million fish. Pink salmon accounted for approximately 21 percent of the nominal value at \$61.8 million, and 51 percent of the harvest at 59.4 million fish. Chum salmon accounted for 9 percent of the nominal value at \$25.9 million and 7 percent of the harvest at 8.7 million fish. Coho salmon accounted for approximately 6 percent of the nominal value at \$18.2 million and 2 percent of the harvest at 2.3 million fish. The Chinook salmon harvest was estimated to be under 260,000 fish with an estimated preliminary ex-vessel value of \$14.3 million (nominal). A total of 6,461 individual permit holders made commercial salmon landings in 2020. Adjusted for inflation (CPI, 2020 prices), the 2020 ex-vessel value estimate was \$295.2 million.

While salmon returns were generally below average statewide, the 2020 season was not without bright spots:

- The 2020 inshore Bristol Bay sockeye salmon run of 58.2 million fish is the fifth largest total run since 2000 and was 46 percent above the average run-size for the latest 20-year time period (40 million fish). This was the sixth consecutive year the Bristol Bay inshore sockeye salmon run exceeded 50 million fish.
- The 2020 pink salmon harvest in the Kodiak Management Area was the third largest even-year pink salmon harvest on record and was well above average. The pink salmon harvest of approximately 21.8 million fish was valued at approximately \$18 million. Pink salmon escapement was the second largest on record, and the largest since 1989, with over 10.6 million pink salmon escaped.
- For the first time since 2015, the Kuskokwim Area had a large-scale commercial salmon buyer operating within the Kuskokwim Bay W-4 (Quinhagak) and W-5 (Goodnews Bay) commercial fishing districts. Even with record-low participation, average catch rates during the 2020 season for sockeye salmon in district W-4 were the highest on record (compared to available standardized catch rate data; 1981 to 2015) while Chinook, chum, and coho salmon catch rates were below average. Sockeye salmon harvest was second highest since 1960 and approximately 56 percent above the most recent 10-year average (2006 – 2015). Catch rates for sockeye and coho salmon in district W-5 were among the best on record.

### **Sustaining Fishing Opportunities**

The department continued to conduct many quantitative stock assessment projects (weirs, counting towers, and aerial surveys) statewide to provide objective inseason data. This data is key to informing managers in decision-making to provide fishing opportunity and manage stocks for sustained yield. Area Managers issued a total of 101 Emergency Orders and Advisory Announcements during 2020 that either restricted or liberalized fisheries and 51 Advisory Announcements or Press Releases that informed the public of fishing opportunities during the season. Opportunities for sockeye salmon fishing were liberalized in the Redoubt Bay/Lake, Fish Creek, Resurrection Bay, Wood, Nushagak-Mulchatna, Naknek, Alagnak, Kasilof, and Russian rivers. Pasagshak, Olds and American rivers and Fish and Ship creeks coho salmon, Valdez Area pink salmon and Southeast Alaska Chinook salmon were liberalized for much of the 2020 run.

In the ongoing efforts to reduce complex regulations, the department submitted eighteen staff proposals to the Alaska Board of Fisheries to simplify confusing regulations, and all were adopted.

### **New Fishery Development**

The department staff have worked closely with stakeholders in southeast Alaska to develop a new fishery for hagfish that allows harvest using pots through a Commissioner's Permit. The fishery has a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 170,000 pounds that is distributed across seven different management areas. All research, stock assessment, and management are undertaken collaboratively with stakeholders. This is the first new commercial fishery developed in Alaska in many years and is an open-access fishery that continues to provide opportunity for interested fishermen.

The department is working closely with stakeholders in Prince William Sound to explore the feasibility of new fisheries for sea cucumber and king crab. These fisheries currently are being evaluated with test fishery stock assessments.

**Implementation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty**

2020 was the second year implementing the newly renegotiated Pacific Salmon Treaty. Northern Boundary area and Transboundary River fisheries were managed consistent with Treaty provisions. Preliminary data suggest that these fisheries met Treaty obligations. Chinook fisheries were managed to not exceed the Treaty harvest limit which was significantly higher in 2020 than in 2019. Preliminary data suggest that there was a slight underage relative to the harvest limit; hence there will not be a payback during the 2021 fishery as overages are required to be paid back the following year. The fishery was also managed to reduce interceptions of wild southeast Alaska and Transboundary River Chinook salmon stocks identified as stocks of concern or forecasted to be below escapement goal. This strategy successfully reduced intercept of these stocks while focusing harvest on other Treaty stocks.

**Rockfish Management Initiative**

Research projects conducted in collaboration with the Division of Sport Fish and Division of Commercial Fisheries have helped inform development of management strategies for black and yelloweye rockfish in the Gulf of Alaska. In FY2021, the divisions plan to continue to host internal workshops regarding management issues and stock assessment needs for groundfish species, primarily yellow and black rockfish. Given growing concerns over stock status, the divisions continue to engage state and federal agency staff with rockfish management expertise, reviewing, and, if appropriate, modifying management strategies and collaboratively exploring stock assessment needs.

**Managing for Subsistence Harvest Priority**

After ensuring sustainability, providing subsistence harvest opportunity is the department's highest priority. This is accomplished several ways. When fisheries must be restricted for conservation purposes, subsistence fisheries are the last to be restricted. While in times of abundance subsistence, fisheries operate with few restrictions, and other fisheries continue under close management based on abundance. Despite low salmon returns in 2020, subsistence fisheries and hunts occurred despite the pandemic, allowing subsistence harvesters opportunities to feed their communities and pass on traditions. The department maintains open dialog with subsistence users to understand how best to meet subsistence needs.

**Defending Against Federal Erosion of State Management Authority**

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) and Access Defense programs, and the Threatened, Endangered, and Diversity Program (TED) and Marine Mammal Program (MM) are cost effective approaches to federal management issues. The ANILCA Program asserts and defends the authority of the department for management of fish and wildlife on all lands in Alaska and maintains public access and use of federal public lands. The TED and MM programs works to conserve wildlife species before they become threatened or endangered, to recover species already imperiled, and to keep common species common. The programs administer the State's response to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) by providing resources, expertise, and coordination among agencies (e.g., Department of Law and Department of Natural Resources) with the goal of conserving wildlife and avoiding unwarranted regulations. The division will continue its efforts to provide information, challenge unwarranted actions, and conduct needed research. Last year's major successes by these programs included the following:

- Worked to reign in overly-broad designations of critical habitat under the ESA, including responding to the National Marine Fisheries Service that expansive designations of critical habitat for humpback whale, and ringed and bearded seals would fail to benefit the conservation of the species and while placing regulatory burdens and economic costs on Alaskans.
- Worked with Department of Law to uphold a necessary and appropriately issued Letter of Authorization for non-lethal incidental take of Cook Inlet Beluga whales issued to Hilcorp Alaska by intervening on the side of the National Marine Fisheries Service in a lawsuit filed by the Center for Biological Diversity that challenges the authorization.
- Worked with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the US-Russia Polar Bear Bilateral Agreement to establish sustainable Chukchi Sea Polar Bear Harvest quotas necessary to allow continued opportunities for subsistence.
- Worked as technical advisors to the Alaska Oil and Gas Association in their application for an Incidental Take Regulation for polar bears under the MMPA necessary for the continuation of North Slope oil and gas operations on State of Alaska and federal leases.

**Facilities/Maintenance**

During FY2020, ADF&G Division of Administrative Services addressed numerous deferred facility maintenance issues and emergency repairs throughout Alaska. Highlighted projects included: in Fairbanks, replacement of failed building heating, cooling, and electrical systems; and in Anchorage, staff were moved back into office spaces previously evacuated due to earthquake damage, and a significant re-organization and staff move/relocation throughout the facility. Other projects included: heating and electrical system replacements in two King Salmon buildings, a roof replacement and a new storage building at the Rabbit Creek Shooting Park in Anchorage, septic replacement at Susitna Landing (Mat-Su), trail repair at Reflections Lake, and assisting other divisions in establishing numerous design contracts for future projects.

**Licensing**

As of CY2020, approximately 80 percent of the department's license vendors have transitioned from selling paper licenses to utilizing the user-friendly eVendor electronic sales system. The eVendor system was developed as an efficient and cost-effective improvement for the department and its 800 license vendors. This system allows for license data to be captured and stored within the licensing database immediately, allowing the department to decrease the number of seasonal data entry staff. Instantly accessible data is of considerable benefit to resource management and enforcement agencies. In FY2020 approximately 809,000 licenses, stamps, and tags were issued to hunters and anglers, of which 67 percent were issued electronically.

The department has made electronically signed licenses available to the public, allowing individuals to carry and display their licenses on their electronic device while engaging in fishing, hunting, and trapping activities. This feature will be expanded to hunting and fishing permits in FY2021.

**Information Technology**

During FY2020, the ADF&G Division of Administrative Services Information Technology team (DAS IT), focused on several system upgrades and a major new department initiative to launch a Mobile App for the hunting and angling public. The Mobile App is currently in development and should be available to the public in early 2021.

The department continues to transition license vendors to the eVendor system, which enables license vendors to sell licenses, tags, and permits electronically, reducing the use of paper licenses. DAS IT added new hunting and fishing related products to the Online Store and eVendor with a goal of a "One Stop Shop" for the department. ADF&G's online store and eVendor have been especially beneficial throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, providing continuous service to hunters and anglers from a safe distance.

**Key Department Challenges****Impacts of Reduced Funding on Return on Investment**

Alaska's fish and wildlife resources are managed as a sustainable and renewable resource to provide current and future economic and social benefits for all Alaskans. Economic information has been gathered that shows the department turns a \$198 million dollar investment (the department's budget), into a return of over \$11 billion dollars annually. This illustrates the significant returns yielded from investments in the department's budget.

Reduced budgets challenge the department's ability to continue to provide this high rate of return. Since FY2015, the department has experienced a 35 percent reduction in unrestricted general funds. The impact of these reductions has been partially mitigated by additional revenue from federal, fish and game funds, test fish receipts, and other non-general fund sources. Reduced funding impacts the department's ability to gather necessary data on fish and wildlife resources to manage for sustained yield, while maximizing the harvestable surplus of species important to Alaskans. Less precise information forces the department to err on the side of conservation which leads to more conservative species management, thereby reducing harvest opportunity and economic benefit to the state. The department is focusing on efficiencies across all divisions to minimize direct impacts on programs, but at these reduction levels, program impacts are unavoidable. Every effort is being made to prioritize the most critical programs and activities based on available funding.

**COVID-19 Impacts**

The COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020 caused severe travel restrictions which in turn significantly reduced revenues from the sale of sport fishing licenses and king salmon stamps that are important financial resources for running the

Division of Sport Fish's programs. Year-to-date sales are not even half of an average fishing season given most of the licenses sold are to non-resident anglers who were hamstrung with travel restrictions getting to Alaska. Even though Alaska's mandates were relaxed in late June, restrictions in Canada allowed zero non-essential travel border crossings; despite a planned lifting on October 21, 2020 their restrictions remained in place through November 2020. Cruise ship visits are an unknown going into CY2021 and could continue to exacerbate the revenue issue forcing key core service program reductions and deletions.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and concerns, in-person staff attendance has been limited to not occurring at all due to cancellations. The limited participation included attending advisory committee meetings and/or attended other events either virtually or social distanced.

#### **Hatchery Production Impacts Due to Loss of Hatchery Surcharge**

The bond debt incurred over a decade ago to build the two new state of the art sport fish hatchery facilities in Anchorage and Fairbanks was paid in full June 2020. The debt was satisfied nearly five years early, being paid solely by surcharges placed on sport fishing licenses. The statutes enacted by the legislature imposed a sunset on the surcharge, which is January 1 of the year following the year in which the debt has been paid. Therefore, effective January 1, 2021, the department will no longer be collecting a hatchery surcharge on sport fishing licenses.

With no funding going into the Sport Fishing Enterprise Account, there will be a \$500,000 loss of funding to support Chinook salmon enhancement in southeast Alaska and runs the potential to impact the entire southeast Alaska regional enhancement program.

Due to budget restrictions the Arctic grayling program has once again been suspended to reduce spending with no eggs collected in CY2020; no Arctic grayling will be released in CY2021. Major maintenance and upgrade projects at all three state Sport Fish facilities are on hold as well, leading to increased risk of fish loss.

#### **Intensive Management Program**

By statute, the Board of Game is required to identify moose, caribou, and deer populations that are critical food sources to Alaskans and ensure that those populations remain large enough to allow for adequate and sustained harvest. The division's intensive management program is conducted under policies adopted by the board to ensure effectiveness and scientific basis (AS 16.05.255(f)). If a population dips below what the board has determined to be necessary to meet the needs of Alaskans, it will direct the department to begin intensive management of that population. The division first investigates the causes of the decreased population numbers, including forage quality and availability, weather, predation, and other factors. Steps are then taken to increase the numbers which can include hunting and bag limit restrictions, habitat improvement efforts, and predation control.

In 2017, license buyers began paying an additional license surcharge, accounted for separately, that was established by the legislature to fund intensive management efforts. This surcharge is due to sunset in December of 2022. If the surcharge is not renewed, the department will struggle to perform research and management actions necessary to fulfill its statutory obligations under AS 16.05.255(f).

#### **Fisheries Disasters**

The department has received numerous requests for fisheries disasters relief. In response to these requests the department must assess whether the disaster meets federal requirements and if so make a recommendation to the Governor for submission to the Secretary of Commerce for funding. If the Secretary awards funding, the department must then develop spend plans. These spend plans can be complex, involving thousands of stakeholders and the disbursement of millions of dollars, and thus, are controversial and challenging to develop and implement. Already in 2020 the department has received over eight requests for federal disaster relief, and more are anticipated. In addition, the department has three previous disaster declarations for which spend plans are either under development or have been submitted. The department is striving for timely assessment of disaster requests, development of spend plans for allocated funds, and distribution of funds under approved spend plans. However, this is an additional workload on existing staff whose time is fully allocated.

#### **CARES Act Relief**

In passing the CARES Act, Congress appropriated \$300 million for fisheries relief. The department requested to receive 2/3 of the \$300 million in allocated funds based on the relative contribution of Alaska fisheries to the national economy, however National Marine Fisheries Service capped the amount any single state could receive at \$50



million, which is the amount Alaska received. The department is required to develop a spend plan for submission to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission for federal approval and distribution of funds. The department has chosen to allow public input in the development of its spend plan and anticipates submission of the spend plan in late 2020 with fund distribution in early 2021. As with the disaster requests, this is an additional workload on existing staff whose time is fully allocated.

### **Implementation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty**

The recently renegotiated Pacific Salmon Treaty places new obligations on the state in terms of fishery monitoring and management. As Treaty obligations are fundamentally a federal responsibility; funding is critical for providing the data, analyses, fishery management, and bilateral coordination essential to implement the Treaty. It was anticipated that the state would receive new funds to implement the revised Treaty. However, the department only received a nominal increase of 10 percent to the Treaty base grant of less than \$500,000, continuing the unfunded federal mandate placed on the State of Alaska. The department is heavily reliant on Treaty-related soft money sources such as the Northern Endowment Fund, Coded-Wire Tag Improvement Fund, and U.S. Letter of Agreement Fund for more than \$2 million annually to fulfill the promises made at the federal level and anticipate similar base grant allocations from the U.S. Department of Commerce appropriation for FY2022.

The Southeast Alaska Chinook Salmon Fishery Mitigation Program was established in 2009 as part of the Pacifica Salmon Treaty negotiations and was designed to alleviate economic impacts resulting from the 15 percent reduction in Chinook salmon harvest levels under the 2009 revision of the Treaty. This program continues to be necessary due to an additional 7.5 percent reduction in Chinook harvest levels under the 2019 revision. Alaska's willingness to accept another loss to Chinook fisheries was predicated, in part, on a mitigation package designed to offset economic consequences. This past year the department successfully acquired federal funds for mitigation totaling \$7.7 million, for which the department didn't have the needed receipt authority and is in need of requesting authority to cover hatchery fish marking, tagging, and evaluation; hatchery enhancement projects; and hatchery research.

### **Federal Groundfish Fisheries**

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) has several initiatives underway that affect state managed fisheries and distribution of benefits from the harvest of federally managed fishery resources of Alaska. These include transitioning from fixed halibut bycatch limits in the Bering Sea to bycatch limits linked to halibut abundance; ongoing modifications to the federal groundfish observer program, including expanded use of electronic monitoring, to improve quality and utility of observer data; consideration of a cooperative style rationalization program for Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Pacific cod trawl catcher vessels; and modifying the federal management plan for salmon to include discrete areas currently managed by the State of Alaska. State managers and researchers must work through the NPFMC process to develop programs that provide stability for fishery participants and communities, while meeting NPFMC objectives and complying with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

### **Defending Against Federal Erosion of State Management Authority**

Various federal actions related to the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act are challenging state authority to manage and are impacting the state's ability to develop its resources. These include polar bear incidental take authorization, designations of vast expanses of critical habitat for humpback whales, killer whales, and ice seals, and petitions to list a wide range of species. The department has significant restrictions in its ability to use federal funding to defend state rights and as state funds are eliminated our ability to defend state authority is eroded. The department will continue its efforts to provide information, challenge unwarranted actions, and conduct needed research with the limited funding available.

### **Sustaining Fishing Opportunities**

Poor salmon production experienced in recent years continues to threaten fishing opportunity in select areas of the state. Poor runs were again experienced in 2020 and required increasingly severe fishing restrictions across large geographic areas in southeast Alaska, Cook Inlet, Prince William Sound, Kodiak, and interior Alaska to achieve escapement goals and conserve stocks. Despite these restrictions, several salmon escapement and hatchery egg take goals were not achieved. Several salmon runs in 2021 will likely remain low and will continue to challenge managers with providing fishing opportunity while attaining adequate conservation goals.

Low marine survival continues to challenge our ability to meet brood collection and egg take goals statewide resulting in reduced release numbers at some locations. To assess the reasons for low marine survivals, the department has tasked a fisheries scientist to assess marine conditions and their impacts on salmon survival and production.

Answers to these complex questions will not be immediate and will require coordination with other entities, both in-state, nationally, and internationally.

### **Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2022**

The main areas of focus for the Department of Fish and Game in FY2021 will continue to be:

- Restoring open communication and dialogue with Alaskans, increasing public trust
- Protecting the state's right to manage
- Ensuring increased food security for Alaskan families
- Maximizing economic and social benefits
- Continuing to look for budget efficiencies

<b>Contact Information</b>	
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## FY2022 Capital Budget Request

Project Title	Unrestricted Gen (UGF)	Designated Gen (DGF)	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
2018 Sockeye Salmon Disaster - Chignik Area	0	0	0	2,000,000	2,000,000
Pacific Salmon Treaty Chinook Fishery Mitigation	0	0	0	7,700,000	7,700,000
Endangered Species Act - Legal and Research Needs to Protect State Right to Manage	1,000,000	0	0	3,000,000	4,000,000
Pacific Cod Disaster Funding - 2018 Gulf of Alaska	0	0	0	1,000,000	1,000,000
Copper River Boat Launch Facilities Improvements	0	0	165,000	0	165,000
Facilities, Vessels and Aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Upgrades	0	500,000	0	0	500,000
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund	0	0	0	4,400,000	4,400,000
Sport Fish Recreational Boating and Angler Access	0	0	750,000	2,250,000	3,000,000
Wildlife Management, Research and Hunting Access	0	0	3,750,000	11,250,000	15,000,000
<b>Department Total</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>4,665,000</b>	<b>31,600,000</b>	<b>37,765,000</b>

*This is an appropriation level summary only. For allocations and the full project details see the capital budget.*

### Summary of Department Budget Changes by RDU

From FY2021 Management Plan to FY2022 Governor

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>Unrestricted Gen (UGF)</u>	<u>Designated Gen (DGF)</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2021 Management Plan</b>	<b>50,780.5</b>	<b>14,257.3</b>	<b>67,606.4</b>	<b>70,136.5</b>	<b>202,780.7</b>
<b>One-time items:</b>					
-Commercial Fisheries	0.0	-41.8	-800.0	0.0	-841.8
-Sport Fisheries	0.0	0.0	-500.0	0.0	-500.0
<b>Adjustments which continue current level of service:</b>					
-Commercial Fisheries	-668.8	809.3	833.2	33.4	1,007.1
-Sport Fisheries	7.5	0.0	47.7	61.6	116.8
-Wildlife Conservation	5.6	0.0	-477.7	643.3	171.2
-Statewide Support Services	6.9	0.7	19.8	0.0	27.4
-Habitat	17.7	0.0	6.9	0.3	24.9
-Subsistence Research & Monitors	10.5	0.0	5.2	8.1	23.8
<b>Proposed budget increases:</b>					
-Commercial Fisheries	0.0	0.0	1,200.0	4,000.0	5,200.0
-Wildlife Conservation	0.0	0.0	1,500.0	9,600.0	11,100.0
<b>FY2022 Governor</b>	<b>50,159.9</b>	<b>15,025.5</b>	<b>69,441.5</b>	<b>84,483.2</b>	<b>219,110.1</b>

**Department Totals**  
**Department of Fish and Game**

<b>Description</b>	<b>FY2020 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2021 Conference Committee</b>	<b>FY2021 Authorized</b>	<b>FY2021 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2022 Governor</b>	<b>FY2021 Management Plan vs FY2022 Governor</b>	
Department Totals	184,802.3	204,598.1	202,780.7	202,780.7	219,110.1	16,329.4	8.1%
<b>Objects of Expenditure:</b>							
71000 Personal Services	123,580.8	126,469.6	125,378.7	125,371.0	127,777.6	2,406.6	1.9%
72000 Travel	2,127.7	3,245.8	3,160.5	3,160.5	3,366.5	206.0	
73000 Services	49,566.6	62,713.2	62,105.5	62,113.2	74,594.0	12,480.8	20.1%
74000 Commodities	8,476.8	10,722.5	10,689.0	10,689.0	11,822.0	1,133.0	10.6%
75000 Capital Outlay	1,050.4	1,447.0	1,447.0	1,447.0	1,550.0	103.0	7.1%
77000 Grants, Benefits	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
<b>Funding Source:</b>							
1001 CBR Fund (UGF)	0.0	13,149.8	11,332.4	11,332.4	0.0	-11,332.4	-100.0%
1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)	63,263.1	70,136.5	70,136.5	70,136.5	84,483.2	14,346.7	20.5%
1003 G/F Match (UGF)	1,049.3	790.4	790.4	790.4	1,055.8	265.4	33.6%
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	49,840.7	38,657.7	38,657.7	38,657.7	49,104.1	10,446.4	27.0%
1005 GF/Prgm (DGF)	2,759.1	2,571.3	2,571.3	2,571.3	3,434.2	862.9	33.6%
1007 I/A Rcpts (Other)	14,736.8	17,511.1	17,511.1	17,511.1	17,747.2	236.1	1.3%
1018 EVOSS (Other)	1,824.2	2,477.6	2,477.6	2,477.6	2,478.1	0.5	0.0%
1024 Fish/Game (Other)	31,831.5	33,307.1	33,307.1	33,307.1	34,363.6	1,056.5	3.2%
1055 IA/OIL HAZ (Other)	84.2	111.0	111.0	111.0	111.5	0.5	0.5%
1061 CIP Rcpts (Other)	2,940.1	5,304.2	5,304.2	5,304.2	6,322.6	1,018.4	19.2%
1108 Stat Desig (Other)	5,389.1	8,395.4	8,395.4	8,395.4	8,418.5	23.1	0.3%
1109 Test Fish (DGF)	2,426.3	3,425.0	3,425.0	3,425.0	3,432.2	7.2	0.2%
1199 SFEntAcct (Other)	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	0.0	-500.0	-100.0%
1201 CFEC Rcpts (DGF)	8,157.9	8,261.0	8,261.0	8,261.0	8,159.1	-101.9	-1.2%
<b>Totals:</b>							
Unrestricted Gen (UGF)	50,890.0	52,597.9	50,780.5	50,780.5	50,159.9	-620.6	-1.2%
Designated Gen (DGF)	13,343.3	14,257.3	14,257.3	14,257.3	15,025.5	768.2	5.4%
Other Funds	57,305.9	67,606.4	67,606.4	67,606.4	69,441.5	1,835.1	2.7%
Federal Funds	63,263.1	70,136.5	70,136.5	70,136.5	84,483.2	14,346.7	20.5%
<b>Positions:</b>							
Permanent Full Time	834	836	835	826	820	-6	-0.7%
Permanent Part Time	609	606	605	598	601	3	0.5%
Non Permanent	7	8	8	6	6	0	0.0%

**Component Summary Unrestricted General Funds Only**  
**Department of Fish and Game**

<b>Results Delivery Unit/ Component</b>	<b>FY2020 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2021 Conference Committee</b>	<b>FY2021 Authorized</b>	<b>FY2021 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2022 Governor</b>	<b>FY2021 Management Plan vs FY2022 Governor</b>	
<b>Commercial Fisheries</b>							
Commercial Fisheries	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	37,036.6	37,036.6	100.0%
SE Region Fisheries Mgmt.	7,579.9	7,798.0	7,469.2	7,469.2	0.0	-7,469.2	-100.0%
Central Region Fisheries Mgmt.	7,518.6	7,982.4	7,785.2	7,785.2	0.0	-7,785.2	-100.0%
AYK Region Fisheries Mgmt.	6,328.0	6,996.0	6,491.2	6,491.2	0.0	-6,491.2	-100.0%
Westward Region Fisheries Mgmt.	7,101.5	7,439.1	7,069.0	7,069.0	0.0	-7,069.0	-100.0%
Statewide Fisheries Management	9,411.1	9,049.8	8,890.8	8,890.8	0.0	-8,890.8	-100.0%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>37,939.1</b>	<b>39,265.3</b>	<b>37,705.4</b>	<b>37,705.4</b>	<b>37,036.6</b>	<b>-668.8</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>
<b>Sport Fisheries</b>							
Sport Fisheries	2,038.4	1,965.2	1,815.2	1,815.2	1,822.7	7.5	0.4%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>2,038.4</b>	<b>1,965.2</b>	<b>1,815.2</b>	<b>1,815.2</b>	<b>1,822.7</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
<b>Wildlife Conservation</b>							
Wildlife Conservation	1,659.4	1,717.0	1,708.0	1,708.0	1,713.6	5.6	0.3%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>1,659.4</b>	<b>1,717.0</b>	<b>1,708.0</b>	<b>1,708.0</b>	<b>1,713.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>Statewide Support Services</b>							
Administrative Services	1,886.2	1,946.8	1,946.8	1,946.8	1,946.8	0.0	0.0%
Boards of Fisheries and Game	1,107.8	1,205.0	1,180.5	1,180.5	1,184.1	3.6	0.3%
Advisory Committees	392.1	504.2	504.2	504.2	507.5	3.3	0.7%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>3,386.1</b>	<b>3,656.0</b>	<b>3,631.5</b>	<b>3,631.5</b>	<b>3,638.4</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>Habitat</b>							
Habitat	3,417.0	3,524.5	3,450.5	3,450.5	3,468.2	17.7	0.5%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>3,417.0</b>	<b>3,524.5</b>	<b>3,450.5</b>	<b>3,450.5</b>	<b>3,468.2</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>Subsistence Research &amp; Monitoring</b>							
State Subsistence Research	2,450.0	2,469.9	2,469.9	2,469.9	2,480.4	10.5	0.4%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>2,450.0</b>	<b>2,469.9</b>	<b>2,469.9</b>	<b>2,469.9</b>	<b>2,480.4</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
<b>Unrestricted Gen (UGF):</b>	<b>50,890.0</b>	<b>52,597.9</b>	<b>50,780.5</b>	<b>50,780.5</b>	<b>50,159.9</b>	<b>-620.6</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>
<b>Designated Gen (DGF):</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Other Funds:</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Federal Funds:</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Total Funds:</b>	<b>50,890.0</b>	<b>52,597.9</b>	<b>50,780.5</b>	<b>50,780.5</b>	<b>50,159.9</b>	<b>-620.6</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>

**Component Summary All Funds**  
**Department of Fish and Game**

<b>Results Delivery Unit/ Component</b>	<b>FY2020 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2021 Conference Committee</b>	<b>FY2021 Authorized</b>	<b>FY2021 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2022 Governor</b>	<b>FY2021 Management Plan vs FY2022 Governor</b>	
<b>Commercial Fisheries</b>							
Commercial Fisheries	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	72,847.6	72,847.6	100.0%
SE Region Fisheries Mgmt.	13,546.7	13,980.5	13,651.7	13,690.7	0.0	-13,690.7	-100.0%
Central Region Fisheries Mgmt.	10,121.8	11,246.3	11,049.1	11,049.1	0.0	-11,049.1	-100.0%
AYK Region Fisheries Mgmt.	7,981.4	9,875.6	9,370.8	9,370.8	0.0	-9,370.8	-100.0%
Westward Region Fisheries Mgmt.	13,459.8	14,747.8	14,377.7	14,166.2	0.0	-14,166.2	-100.0%
Statewide Fisheries Management	17,799.6	19,150.2	18,991.2	19,163.7	0.0	-19,163.7	-100.0%
Commercial Fish Entry Commission	3,137.5	3,125.7	3,125.7	3,125.7	3,083.9	-41.8	-1.3%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>66,046.8</b>	<b>72,126.1</b>	<b>70,566.2</b>	<b>70,566.2</b>	<b>75,931.5</b>	<b>5,365.3</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
<b>Sport Fisheries</b>							
Sport Fisheries	39,056.6	43,177.1	43,027.1	43,027.1	42,636.8	-390.3	-0.9%
Sport Fish Hatcheries	5,404.4	5,860.4	5,860.4	5,860.4	5,867.5	7.1	0.1%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>44,461.0</b>	<b>49,037.5</b>	<b>48,887.5</b>	<b>48,887.5</b>	<b>48,504.3</b>	<b>-383.2</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>
<b>Wildlife Conservation</b>							
Wildlife Conservation	45,589.0	49,453.6	49,444.6	49,444.6	60,612.5	11,167.9	22.6%
Hunter Ed Public Shooting Ranges	1,009.3	1,007.3	1,007.3	1,007.3	1,110.6	103.3	10.3%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>46,598.3</b>	<b>50,460.9</b>	<b>50,451.9</b>	<b>50,451.9</b>	<b>61,723.1</b>	<b>11,271.2</b>	<b>22.3%</b>
<b>Statewide Support Services</b>							
Commissioner's Office	1,186.2	1,161.9	1,161.9	1,161.9	1,161.9	0.0	0.0%
Administrative Services	12,622.2	11,751.5	11,751.5	11,751.5	11,772.0	20.5	0.2%
Boards of Fisheries and Game	1,107.8	1,227.0	1,202.5	1,202.5	1,206.1	3.6	0.3%
Advisory Committees	495.0	539.5	539.5	539.5	542.8	3.3	0.6%
EVOS Trustee Council	1,470.0	2,379.4	2,379.4	2,379.4	2,379.4	0.0	0.0%
State Facilities Maintenance	2,162.7	5,100.8	5,100.8	5,100.8	5,100.8	0.0	0.0%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>19,043.9</b>	<b>22,160.1</b>	<b>22,135.6</b>	<b>22,135.6</b>	<b>22,163.0</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>Habitat</b>							
Habitat	4,532.6	5,517.0	5,443.0	5,443.0	5,467.9	24.9	0.5%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>4,532.6</b>	<b>5,517.0</b>	<b>5,443.0</b>	<b>5,443.0</b>	<b>5,467.9</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>Subsistence Research &amp; Monitoring</b>							
State Subsistence Research	4,119.7	5,296.5	5,296.5	5,296.5	5,320.3	23.8	0.4%
<b>RDU Totals:</b>	<b>4,119.7</b>	<b>5,296.5</b>	<b>5,296.5</b>	<b>5,296.5</b>	<b>5,320.3</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
<b>Unrestricted Gen (UGF):</b>	<b>50,890.0</b>	<b>52,597.9</b>	<b>50,780.5</b>	<b>50,780.5</b>	<b>50,159.9</b>	<b>-620.6</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>
<b>Designated Gen (DGF):</b>	<b>13,343.3</b>	<b>14,257.3</b>	<b>14,257.3</b>	<b>14,257.3</b>	<b>15,025.5</b>	<b>768.2</b>	<b>5.4%</b>
<b>Other Funds:</b>	<b>57,305.9</b>	<b>67,606.4</b>	<b>67,606.4</b>	<b>67,606.4</b>	<b>69,441.5</b>	<b>1,835.1</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
<b>Federal Funds:</b>	<b>63,263.1</b>	<b>70,136.5</b>	<b>70,136.5</b>	<b>70,136.5</b>	<b>84,483.2</b>	<b>14,346.7</b>	<b>20.5%</b>
<b>Total Funds:</b>	<b>184,802.3</b>	<b>204,598.1</b>	<b>202,780.7</b>	<b>202,780.7</b>	<b>219,110.1</b>	<b>16,329.4</b>	<b>8.1%</b>
<b>Permanent Full Time:</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>-0.7%</b>
<b>Permanent Part Time:</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>Non Permanent:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Total Positions:</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,448</b>	<b>1,430</b>	<b>1,427</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>